

About a Blind School

That is Not Blind

"It is the soul that sees."

“The Heaviest Burden of the Blind is not Blindness but IDLENESS.”

—Helen Keller.

Institution for the Chinese Blind

No. 4 Edinburgh Road

Shanghai, China



THE BUILDINGS.

FOREWORD.

THERE are but few people in Shanghai or the vicinity who know that there is a special school on Edinburgh Road where children who are blind or who have very defective eyesight, may be taught to read and write and to earn their own living; or if they do know there is such a school, realise but little of its advantages or how a child may enter. A few may be prejudiced against new ideas in general, and would rather have their blind child grow up in ignorance and unable to earn his own living or even the respect of those around him.

The object of this pamphlet is to reach such people and let them know about the Institution for the Chinese Blind.

Because a child has no sight or has so little that he is debarred from entering the usual schools, there is no reason why he should not be taught just like his brothers and sisters. The idea that a blind child must be kept by himself and that there is nothing he can do to earn his own living honestly has passed for ever. He needs instruction far more than others and his four remaining senses must be trained by exercise to make up for the loss of the fifth.

The teachers in this school have had special training in teaching blind children; specially prepared books and appliances have been provided, many of which are expensive, so that there is now no reason why any blind child should be deprived of his right of an education.



THE FOUNDER.

HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTION.

The Institution for the Chinese Blind was founded by Dr. John Fryer, Professor Emeritus of Oriental Languages and Literatures, University of California, in the Spring of 1911.

Dr. Fryer came out to China in 1861 and for nearly forty years devoted his untiring energies to the uplift of the Chinese people, emphasizing the urgent need of a broad and thorough education.

The helpless and extremely pitiable condition of the thousands of blind was ever before him and he at once tried to devise plans for the alleviation of their misfortunes. It was not, however, until fifty years after his arrival that his plans fully matured, and the Institution, so long uppermost in his mind, began to materialize. A valuable site of land, tael ten thousand for suitable buildings and a large endowment, all of which he donated, ensured its future.

His youngest son, George B. Fryer, who has spent most of his life in China, undertook to carry out, as far as possible, the ideals in view. He left for America to observe and study the various systems and methods used in that country. After a year he returned with his wife, and as soon as a suitable house could be rented, opened the Institution in November, 1912. After a little over three years of work, the Institution now owns its own buildings and grounds, has a good corps of teachers and helpers and thirty students, ranging from the kindergarten to the university.



THE FAMILY.

WRITING ON
THE BRAILLE
TYPEWRITER.



ALL WHO LEARN
ENGLISH USE THE
"REMINGTON."



FIRST YEAR ARITHMETIC IS TAUGHT ON
THE "TAYLOR" SLATE.



READING AND WRITING IN CHINESE BRAILLE.

*Education should be a training to take
advantage of opportunities.*



A BLIND TEACHER AND HIS CLASS.

The work of the Institution is divided into five departments, all of which it is necessary for a student to become proficient in before receiving his diploma on graduation. The Literary, Musical, Industrial, Physical, and Home.

The literary work follows that of ordinary schools, and the courses of study are those authorized by the Board of Education in Peking. The highest standard is demanded, and all who cannot keep up with their classes are sent home, as this is a School and not a Home.

Reading and writing is all in Mandarin, and a phonetic Braille system of initials and finals is used.



OUR JUNIOR ENTERTAINMENT SOCIETY.

THE CIRCI'S TROUPE.
"ROCCO" AND HIS "HORSE."



MUSIC.

“ All one's life is music; if one touch the notes right and in time.”—*Ruskin*.

Music is the chief pleasure of one who is blind, not because he has more ability to play than his seeing brothers, but because he has more time and opportunity to devote himself to its charms. It not only increases the enjoyment of the hours of recreation but is often a valuable means of self-support.

Our pupils are given as thorough an education in music as our funds and their abilities will allow. We have four organs, a piano, several flutes, both Chinese and Foreign, a violin and banjo, besides a number of Chinese musical instruments, and the nucleus of a drum and fife band. A specially trained blind Chinese teacher has charge of this department.

The majority of our pupils are extremely fond of singing. We now have a choral class and sing four-part songs and anthems. All boys who have any promise of a voice are given every opportunity of improving it. It takes, however, two years of hard work before they are allowed to enter the class.

WE ARE FOND OF DUETS AND TRIOS.



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.



A SINGING CLASS.

Now don't forget when things go wrong,
To try the magic of a song,
A cheerful heart, a smiling face
Pour sunshine in the darkest place.



WHEN ONE GETS TO LOVE WORK, HIS
LIFE IS A HAPPY ONE.—*Ruskin.*

WE MAKE OUR OWN BEDS AND SWEEP
OUR OWN ROOMS.



HUI SUNG AND DING SING.

INDUSTRIAL.

“To play the flute it is not enough to blow ; we must use the fingers.”—*Goethe*.

Industrial work is the occupation in which the blind can compete to less advantage with seeing men than any other, so we resort to it only, as a means of livelihood, in the case of those who manifest no decided talent for anything else. Nevertheless, the greater majority of our pupils, especially those who come to us after they have reached the age of twelve, will have to depend upon a trade as the sole means of livelihood. Industrial training is therefore of paramount importance.

Not only does it furnish a means of support but it is a valuable asset from an educational standpoint, teaching the boys the use of their fingers as well as to think and do things by themselves. It is also a means of recreation for those who are able to devote their lives to teaching or other work, it being always advisable to have as many strings to a bow as possible.



WORK OF THE PUPILS.

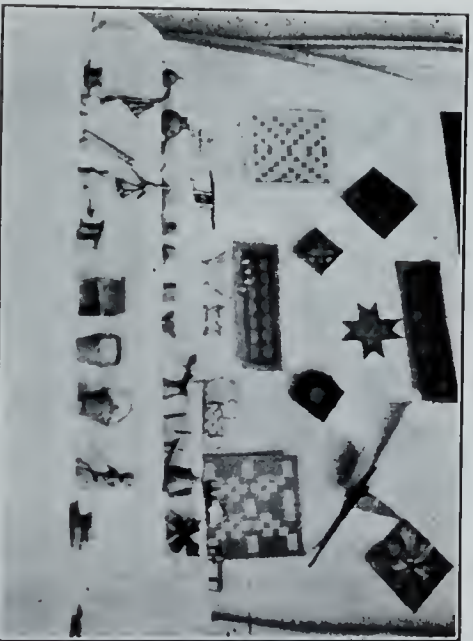


BAO SUNG AND HIS BEAD WORK.

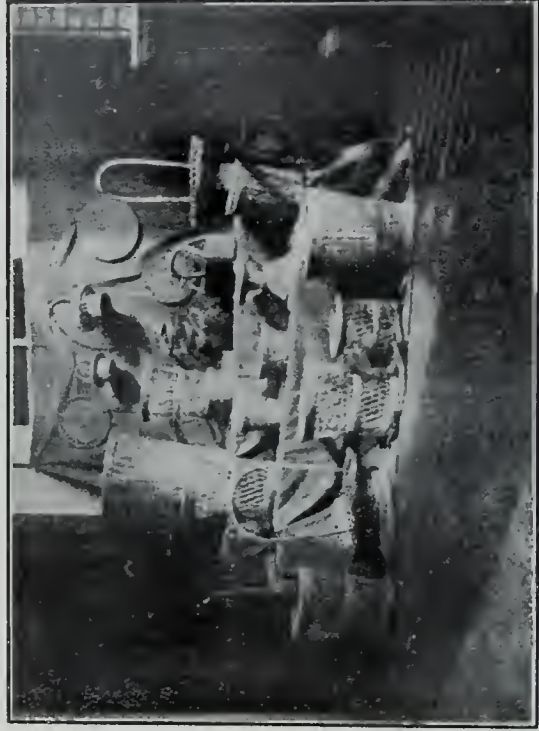
"Only helping a school boy
 His task to learn;
 Only showing a stranger
 The way to turn.—
 Only reading a chapter
 To some one blind;
 Only leaving a sparkle
 Of light behind."



FIRST YEAR MODELING IN PLASTICINE.



THE FIRST ROUND OF THE LADDER TOWARDS SELF SUPPORT.



REED BASKETRY.



BASKETS
IN THE MAKING.



RE CANING CHAIRS
IS A USEFUL SOURCE OF INCOME.

PHYSICAL.

"Nothing so strong as gentleness,
Nothing so gentle as real strength."

—*St. Francis de Sales.*

"A strong mind in a strong body" is now recognized to be an absolute necessity. Boys without sight naturally have weak bodies, and before they can advance much in literary or industrial work it is imperative to build up their physical condition.

Some of our boys come to us in a pitiable condition, but after a few weeks of careful training and good food they make wonderful progress.

The exercises take a variety of forms according to the needs of the pupil. A quarter of an hour immediately on arising and half an hour in the afternoon make the doctor's duties very light.



THE PYRAMIDS OF CHINA.



FOOT EXERCISES.



DUMB-BELL, EXERCISES.



TUG OF WAR.
CHERKIANG TS. KIANGSU.

TUMBLING.





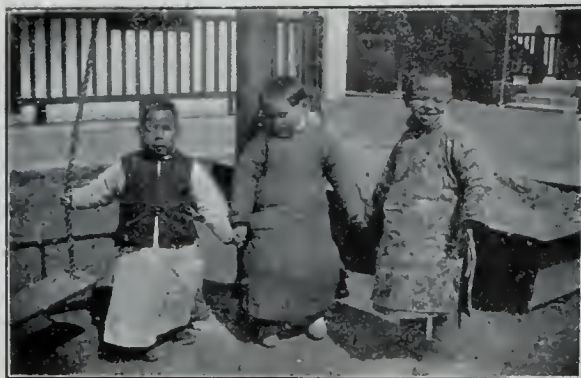
STANDING HIGH JUMP.
1915 record 2' 5"



FROG RACE.



FIRE DRILL.



PLAYMATES.

In case of fire involving the usual staircases, we have built a ladder through the floor at each end of the verandah. The boys run up and down the ladders in play, and during a fire drill empty the dormitory and are on the playground in regular order in 58 seconds.



LEARNING TO DESCEND THE
LADDER.



TSANG BEI SUNG.

"You have opened the eyes of our
fingers and our minds so that
now we can see."

"You have only two eyes while we
have ten."



WORKING IN THE GARDEN.



THE WORK TABLE.



THE SAND BOX.

WHAT SIX MONTHS
WILL DO.



The Morning of Life is the Time for Moulding Character.

The kindergarten is probably the most necessary part of the school. The best time for a blind child to enter is about seven years old. If he waits until he is much older his teachers find that he has habits which will interfere very much with his future success ; that he had not had proper training, and that he has passed by the time when most could have been done towards fitting him for the training that is to make him independent and useful.

The kindergarten is the most natural step from the home to the school. Here the children learn habits of orderliness, tidiness, punctuality, and obedience. They are taught how to eat, how to stand, and how to walk well. They are taught how to use their hands in weaving, block-building, paper-folding and in making all sorts of useful things. Their independence is cultivated in all kinds of games and gymnastics.

Children between the ages of seven and ten are admitted into this department, and the value of the training they receive is very great. They are in charge of well-trained teachers and helpers, who take the place of the home relatives. Their diet is carefully watched, and in fact all that is possible is provided to fit them for their place in the larger school of life.

INSTITUTION FOR THE CHINESE BLIND

WORKING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30th, 1916

To Salaries and Wages - - -	Tls. 2,955.20	By Interest on Investments and from Bank Tls. 2,745.30	
„ Rent - - - -	„ 285.00	„ Interest Less transferred to Building Fund 600.00 -	Tls. 2,145.30
„ Supplies (House) - - -	„ 56.65	„ Donations and Subscriptions -	„ 2,438.82
„ „ (Water) - - - -	„ 26.61	„ Receipts from Pupils for Board and Tuition 336.52 - -	„
„ Light and Fuel - - -	„ 61.49	„ Less expense of boarding pupils 334.08 - - -	„ 2.44
„ Medical Fees, January 1st to April 30th, 1916 - - -	„ 33.33	„ Balance (loss) - - - -	„ 1,148.82
„ Clothing - - - -	„ 73.66		
„ Medicines - - - -	„ 27.06		
„ Printing and Postage - -	„ 18.07		
„ Registration Fees on Incorpor- ation - - - -	„ 200.00		
„ Fire Insurance: Tls. 10,000 on New Buildings 1,000 on Furniture	„ 74.15		
„ General Charges - - -	„ 469.04		
„ Travelling Expenses - -	„ 78.08		
„ Balance (loss) brought forward from last Working Account 1914-1915 - - - -	„ 1,377.04		
	<u>Tls. 5,735.38</u>		<u>Tls. 5,735.38</u>

Estimated Budget for 1916-17.

Overdraft on Bank	...	...	...	...	Tls. 1,148.32
Expenses for year	...	...	...	...	„ 5,000.00
					<hr/>
					Tls. 6,148.32
Less Interest on Investments	...	...	...	...	2,745.30
					<hr/>
Balance to be raised by donations			...		Tls. 3,403.02

Needs of the Institution.

Kindergarten building, Tls. 4,000 00, Industrial building, Tls. 6,000.00, Gymnasium building, Tls. 5,000.00, Stereotyping machine and outfit, Tls. 750.00, Extra equipment for classrooms, Tls. 500.00, Yearly donation for Braille Literature fund Tls. 250.00. \$50.00 a year will provide a scholarship for a destitute blind boy who otherwise would be forced to spend his life in idleness.

To The Institution for the Chinese Blind

No. 4 EDINBURGH ROAD, SHANGHAI, CHINA

I have pleasure in assisting the above Institution in the following manner:—

Annual Subscription
Donation to General Fund
Donation to Endowment Fund
Donation to Building Fund
				TOTAL	...

Estimated Budget for 1916-17.

Overdraft on Bank	Tls. 1,148.32
Expenses for year 5,000.00
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				Tls. 6,148.32
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TOTAL						...

Enclosed, please find value.

(Name)

(Please state whether Mr., Mrs., Miss, etc.)

(Address)

Cheques should be made payable to the "Treasurer, Institution for the Chinese Blind."



HELP WANTED!



NEEDLESSLY BLIND FOR LIFE.

Oh what a happy boy I am
Although I cannot see.
I am resolved while in this world
Contented I shall be.
How many blessings I enjoy
That other people don't.
To weep and sigh because I'm blind
I cannot and I WON'T.



GENERAL INFORMATION.

This Institution is in reality a Normal School, to train teachers for similar schools; it, however, has to commence to educate the blind from their infancy. Its aim is to be a model School for the Blind for all who are interested in this philanthropic and much needed work. It is, moreover, a School and not a Home and all who cannot keep up with the required standard of work must return to their homes.

This Institution aims to train as well as teach, and as much attention is given to the pupils when out of class as when in the schoolroom.

The course of instruction aims to be thorough and broad. It embraces the branches usually taught in public or missionary schools and several that are not taught there, such as typewriting, household and industrial pursuits, organ and vocal music.

Special attention is paid to physical exercises and drill, and to the building up of the bodies of the pupils.

The age limit for admission is fixed between seven and fourteen, except in special cases. Candidates for admittance must be able to dress and to take care of themselves, and be free from skin or other contagious disease. They must also be capable of instruction, and of a good moral character.

For the present, tuition is practically free. Children under ten, in the first year or kindergarten, pay a dollar a month for board and extras, all others fifty dollars a year except in destitute cases when special arrangements can be made with the Superintendent. All clothes and traveling expenses must be furnished by the parents or guardians.

Persons desiring to visit the Institution, or to enquire further into the method or system of instruction, are cordially invited to do so. All communications should be addressed to the Superintendent.

As the Institution has outgrown its endowment, donations or subscriptions will be very acceptable. A form will be found opposite page 29.

“The public must learn that the blind man is neither a genius nor a freak nor an idiot. He has a mind which can be educated, a hand which can be trained, ambitions which it is right for him to strive to realize, and it is the duty of the public to help him to make the best of himself, so that he can win light through work.”—*Helen Keller*.

